

Is Crohn's Disease Caused By Antibiotics?

Hepato-Gastroenterology

December 1994; Vol. 41; No. 6; pp. 549-551

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FROM ABSTRACT:

The increase in Crohn's Disease that has taken place over the last 50 years has paralleled the increasing use of antibiotics in human and veterinary medicine.

Antibiotics can induce a capacity for toxin production in bacteria, or can make them invasive.

Prior antibiotic therapy also promotes the outbreak of Crohn's Disease to a statistically demonstrable extent.

It may clearly be assumed that Crohn's Disease is caused in genetically susceptible persons by intestinal bacteria whose biological properties have been altered by antibiotics.

THIS AUTHOR ALSO NOTES:

"Until the 1950s, Crohn's Disease was a rare condition." Crohn's Disease has increased dramatically since the mid 1950s. "After 1950, Crohn's Disease spread like an epidemic, initially in northern Europe and the USA."

Oral penicillin has been available since 1953. Tetracycline has also been on the market since 1953.

Antibiotics have been added to animal feeds since the early 1950s. "They have thus been able to enter the human organism other than by way of a doctor's prescription, namely via the consumption of chicken, pork, and beef."

Importantly, small doses of antibiotics ("subinhibitory") induce toxin production from intestinal organisms.

Studies involving twins and different ethnic groups show that there is a genetic component in susceptibility to Crohn's Disease.

"The epidemic-like spread of Crohn's Disease over roughly the last 50 years started with the introduction of antibiotics and developed in parallel with the increase in antibiotic consumption." **[Important]**

Crohn's Disease is an infectious disease whose pathogen is controlled by normal intestinal flora. This pathogen becomes toxic and invasive as the result of low level "contact with non-killing (insufficient) amounts of antibiotics."

Whenever antibiotics are used early in life and in large quantities, "the incidence and prevalence of Crohn's Disease is high."

Children treated with antibiotics "develop Crohn's Disease particularly frequently."

KEY POINTS FROM DAN MURPHY

- 1) "The increase in Crohn's Disease that has taken place over the last 50 years has paralleled the increasing use of antibiotics in human and veterinary medicine."
- 2) "Antibiotics can induce a capacity for toxin production in bacteria, or can make them invasive."
- 3) "Prior antibiotic therapy promotes the outbreak of Crohn's Disease to a statistically demonstrable extent."
- 4) "It may clearly be assumed that Crohn's Disease is caused in genetically susceptible persons by intestinal bacteria whose biological properties have been altered by antibiotics."
- 5) "Until the 1950s, Crohn's Disease was a rare condition." Crohn's Disease has increased dramatically since the mid 1950s. "After 1950, Crohn's Disease spread like an epidemic."
- 6) Antibiotics have been available for human and livestock consumption since the early 1950s. "They have thus been able to enter the human organism other than by way of a doctor's prescription, namely via the consumption of chicken, pork, and beef."
- 7) There is a genetic component in susceptibility to Crohn's Disease.
- 8) "The epidemic-like spread of Crohn's Disease over roughly the last 50 years started with the introduction of antibiotics and developed in parallel with the increase in antibiotic consumption." **[Important]**
- 9) Crohn's Disease is an infectious disease whose pathogen is controlled by normal intestinal flora. This pathogen becomes toxic and invasive as the result of low level "contact with non-killing (insufficient) amounts of antibiotics."
- 10) Whenever antibiotics are used early in life and in large quantities, "the incidence and prevalence of Crohn's Disease is high."
- 11) Children treated with antibiotics "develop Crohn's Disease particularly frequently."